Takahashi-san
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。

I DON'T WANT TO BE A SUPER STAR IN THE SKY
I WANT TO BE AN IDOL...
WHO'S WITHIN REACH OF EVERYONE-- ONE THAT CAN DIRECTLY WORK TO CHEER THEM ALL UP!
AFTER WORKING WITH SAEJIMA...
AND AFTER MY TOUGH TRAINING IN AMERICA...
THAT'S THE CONCLU-SION I'VE ULTIMATELY COME TO!

CHAPTER 74: SAEJIMA IS LISTENING.

YU HOKUO

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S COME SO FAR. SHE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT SHE WANTS NOW
SIGH
YOUR DAYS ABROAD HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT A TRULY UNEXPECTED RESULT
AFTER THAT PERFORMANCE, I CAN TELL WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY LOUD AND CLEAR!
WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THINKING! RIGHT, ENA?!
AND THAT'S...
YOUR WINGSPAN IS SO GREAT THAT YOU COULD HELP THE WORLD TAKE FLIGHT
BUT IS THAT REALLY OKAY?
IT'S AMEKARI-SAN
OH MY
AND YET, YOU'D CHOOSE SUCH A HUMBLE DREAM

I CAN'T HELP BUT BE CURIOUS.
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT
AMEKARI-SAN!
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS,
EAVESDROP-PING IS COMPLETELY LACKING IN CLASS
THIS IS NO GOOD.
I'D LIKE TO PROPOSE A COMPRO-MISE
ISN'T IT OKAY IN THAT CASE?
BUT IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT I CAN HEAR THEM FROM HERE.
A COMPRO-MISE
...YOU SAY?
...
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A CRIME OR ANYTHING.

I MEAN, I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM TALKING.
PSYCH!

I KNOW THAT YOU CAN'T COMPLETELY STOP YOUR PLAN AT THIS POINT.
I'M NOT A CHILD, SO THAT MUCH IS OBVIOUS.
BUT NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, SPENDING A FEW DECADES IN SPACE...
IT'S BEYOND REASON!
DECADES ?!

JUST HOW MUCH ECONOMIC CLOUT DOES HE HAVE?
THAT'S ALMOST A MYSTERIOUS AMOUNT...
IS... IS THAT ACTUALLY THE PLAN?
DID HE REALLY RESERVE A PLACE FOR HER IN A SPACE STATION FOR THAT LONG?
I WANT TO CONTINUE BEING AN IDOL WITH TWO FEET ON THE GROUND!
I WANT TO INTERACT WITH THE PEOPLE OF EARTH DIRECTLY
YOU NEED NOT SAY ANY MORE
AME-KARI-SAN
SST
I SEE. SO THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO MAKE A COMPRO-MISE...
YES! SO PLEASE...
ENA-SAN, I DON'T WANT YOU TO LIVE IN SPACE FOR DECADES...

I WANT YOU TO BE THERE FOR CENTURIES!
WHY WOULD YOU MAKE IT EVEN LONGER?!
ENA!

THIS ISN'T GOOD.
AMEKARI-SAN'S JOKE JUST NOW
I COULDN'T THINK OF A SINGLE TASTEFUL RETORT
HE STILL HAS A WAY'S TO GO TO BE A TRUE COME-DIAN
IF YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED WITH MERE DECADES, THEN
YOUR STAR POWER IS THE REAL DEAL!
OH. HE WASN'T JOKING, HUH?

A TURTLE? THAT'S IT!
WHAT'S IT?!
I JUST SAID THAT'S NOT IT!
AND WHAT'S WITH THIS LIVING FOR CENTURIES THING?! DO YOU THINK I'M A TURTLE OR SOMETHING?!
CENTURIES, ENA!
FIRST, WE'LL HAVE TO COME UP WITH A WAY TO LENGTHEN YOUR LIFESPAN
WE CAN HAVE MEDICAL SUPPORT, NO, COLD SLEEP---
DO YOU WANT TO TURN ME INTO SOME KIND OF TURTLE GIRL?!
FUSE?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IF WE COULD FUSE--- A TURTLE'S LONGEVITY TO A HUMAN, THEN---
I'M TELLING YOU! I ONLY WANT TO GO FOR A FEW YEARS.
WHAT? NOT EVEN THEN?
DON'T TELL ME MILLENNIA?!
YEARS?
EVEN IF I COULDN'T THINK OF A COMEBACK, ENA COULD
NO ONE BEATS HER IN RETORTS SHE COULD KEEP A CROWD ROARING
FLOATING UP THERE IN THE NIGHT SKY, ROUND AS THE MOON ITSELF WITH MY SHELL! I'D BE A LAUGHINGSTOCK!
THAT SURE WOULD MAKE ME A PRETTY UNIQUE STAR---

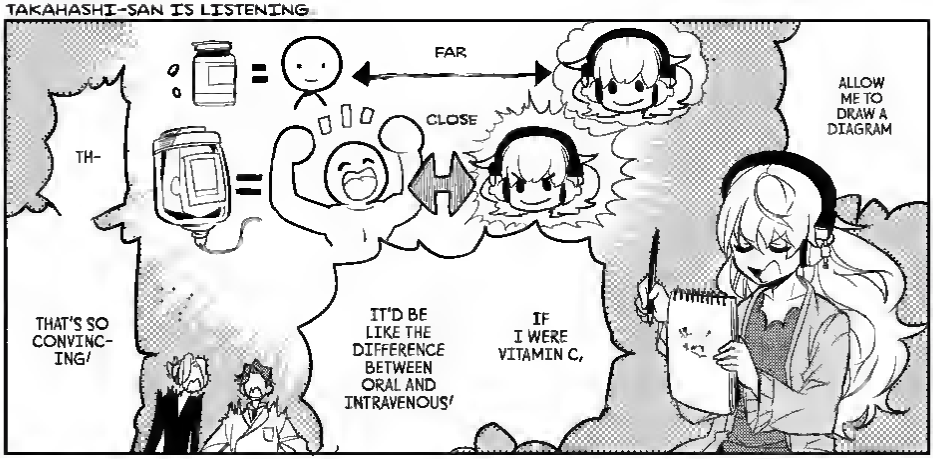
SO A FEW YEARS TIMES TEN!
MULTI-PLYING IT BY TEN IS THE SAME THING AS SAYING DECADES!
ENA!
HEH HEH I SEE YOU'VE GOTTEN QUITE GOOD AT HANDLING AMEKARI-SAN.
SO AFTER A FEW YEARS, I'D BE THINKING, "IT'S FINALLY OVER!"
AND THEN YOU'D THROW IN EXTRA INNINGS?!
WHAT ARE MY YEARS TO YOU?! CONVENIENT, INDIVIDUAL PACKETS?!
LITTLE PACKETS OF LIFE?!
I DON'T GET A SAVE POINT, YOU KNOW?!
THE REJOIN-DERS JUST KEEP ON COMING!
I NEVER KNEW SHE WAS SO WELL VERSED
SO, WHAT YOU MEAN IS
WORD FOR WORD

GOOD JOB, ENA.
I FINALLY GOT THROUGH TO YOU
FOR A FEW YEARS?
YOU ONLY HOPE TO STAY IN SPACE...
THAT'S RIGHT! IF HUMANITY COULD ONLY BEAR WITNESS TO YOUR SPLENDOR, THERE'D BE WORLD PEACE!
THAT'S WHAT I TRULY BELIEVE!
YOU CAN'T! JUST A FEW YEARS ISN'T NEARLY ENOUGH!
YOU HAVE THE POWER TO ILLUMINATE THE ENTIRE WORLD!
THAT'S WHY I WANTED YOU TO GO TO AMERICA
ENA...
ENA
UGH... THIS IS EMBARRASSING
THE WHOLE SPACE THING ASIDE,
AME-KARI-SAN IS RIGHT

YOU MUST PUT YOUR TALENT TO GOOD USE
I UNDER-STAND
IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO GET SERIOUS TO CONVINCE YOU
SERIOUS?
WHAT COULD SHE POSSIBLY MEAN?
FOR BEGINNERS, WHILE PRE-SUMPTUOUS,
I WILL SHOW YOU THAT I AM AN IDOL WITH EXTRAORDI-NARY POWER
AND, USING THAT POWER, I WILL ILLUMINATE THE WORLD
SHEEEN
H-HUH?!
DAZZLE
WHAT'S THIS AURA SHE'S EMA-NATING?!

AND YET, MY POWER...
...IS LIKE THE SUN. FROM AFAR, IT GIVES A KIND WARMTH TO CHEER PEOPLE UP
...HAS TURNED INTO A LIGHT DWELLING WITHIN HER
IT'S AS THOUGH ALL OF HER KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE
BUT WHEN PEOPLE ARE EXPOSED TO IT UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL,
WHAT?!
ENA!
W-WOULDN'T THAT BE BAD?
DON'T YOU THINK SUCH INTENSE CHEER WOULD JUST SET THEM ABLAZE?
IT'LL BE FINE!

ENA!
WE'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT CHEERING PEOPLE UP, RIGHT?!
I'M SURE IT'S MUCH BETTER TO WARM YOURSELF NEXT TO THE FIRE THAN FROM AFAR!
IS NOT THE PHOENIX REVIVED FROM THE FLAME ITSELF?!
WHEN YOU CONSIDER HOW MUCH POWER I HAVE,
GETTING CLOSE TO MY FANS TO CHEER THEM UP SEEMS LIKE THE BETTER BET.
THEY'LL BE HAPPY!
THE ELDERLY WILL FEEL YOUNG AGAIN!
THE SICK WILL FULLY RECOVER!
AND KIDS WILL DREAM BIGGER THAN EVER BEFORE!
INDEED.

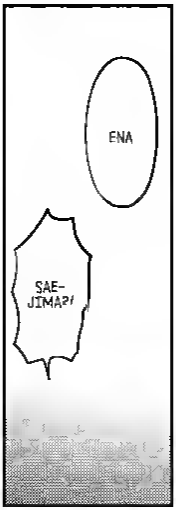

FAR
CLOSE
ALLOW ME TO DRAW A DIAGRAM
TH-
IF I WERE VITAMIN C,
IT'D BE LIKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORAL AND INTRAVENOUS!
THAT'S SO CONVINC-ING!

WHO COULD HAVE INFLUENCED YOU? OR HAVE YOU GROWN THIS MUCH ON YOUR OWN?
EITHER WAY...

AMAZING, ENA!
WHAT SOPHISTRY!
I MEAN WHAT A SOUND AND LOGICAL ARGUMENT! YOU'VE REALLY COME FAR

FWUMP
ナデナデ
WE...
WE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT OF THAT!

I THINK IT'S TIME I STOP EAVES-DROPPING
AFTER ALL, ENA HAS LEARNED TO STAND ON HER OWN
WHAT A SPLENDID DEVELOPMENT!


ENA
SAE-JIMA?!

HUH?! WERE YOU HERE THE WHOLE TIME?
YES SORRY FOR LISTENING IN WITHOUT ASKING

I DON'T MIND BUT WHY?
OH, I SEE AMEKARI-SAN INVITED YOU TOO!
INDEED BUT ABOUT AMEKARI-SAN

Ugh
I WAS MISTAKEN
AME-KARI-SAN

BUT THAT FEELING OF JOY COULDN'T POSSIBLY COMPARE...
TO DIRECTLY INTERACTING WITH YOU
FOR SOME REASON I THOUGHT A GREAT STAR LIKE ENA-SAN...
WOULD MAKE EVERYONE FEEL HAPPY...
JUST BY BEING WHERE EVERYONE COULD SEE HER
THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF IDOL I AM.
YUP!
A-- REPLACEMENT?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU POSTPONE THE PLAN AND SEARCH FOR A REPLACEMENT?
OH MY
M-MY ARGUMENT WAS THAT COMPELLING?
NOW I DON'T WANT TO SEND YOU UP INTO SPACE AT ALL

BUT CONSIDERING THE TIME-FRAME...
THE CONSTANT, DILIGENT SECRET TRAINING...
AND THE FACT THAT THEY MUST HAPPILY INHERIT ENA-SAN'S ROLE...
AS WELL AS HAVE HER LEVEL OF STAR POWER...
WHERE ON EARTH AM I TO FIND SUCH A PERSON?!
W-WELL...
HERE
I'M RIGHT HERE.

English Digital Edition
Chapter 074

Takahashi-san is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

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